



Quid Navi

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Ce Juge jugé

Myriam Bohémier, BCL II

Le sujet de mon article va vous sembler désuet. Il est vrai que l'événement dont je veux vous entretenir a fait la manchette de la Presse le 9 décembre, mais étant en examen comme vous tous, je n'ai pas eu le temps d'écrire cet article. Je tiens toutefois à vous en parler parce que j'ai été très choquée à la lecture de la nouvelle. Le juge Bienvenue de la Cour supérieure de Trois-Rivières, qui présidait le procès d'une femme ayant tué son mari en lui tranchant la gorge d'une lame de rasoir, a dit : "L'on dit avec raison, et depuis toujours, que lorsque la femme, qui a toujours été à mes yeux l'être le plus noble de la création, et des deux sexes de la race humaine, l'on dit que lorsque la femme s'élève dans l'échelle des valeurs de vertu, elle s'élève plus haut que l'homme, et ça, je l'ai toujours cru. Mais l'on dit aussi, et cela aussi je le crois, que lorsqu'elle décide de s'abaisser, la femme, elle le fait hélas jusqu'à un niveau de bassesse que l'homme le plus vil ne saurait lui-même atteindre." Il a aussi ajouté : "Au camp de concentration d'Auschwitz-Birkenau, en Pologne, qu'un jour j'ai visité avec horreur, même les nazis n'ont pas éliminé des millions de Juifs dans la douleur ni dans le sang. Ils ont péri sans souffrance, dans des chambres à gaz." Ces paroles ont créé tout un émoi au Québec. Elles m'ont aussi outrée. Je vous dirai comment j'ai interprété ces propos en tant que femme. Je vous parlerai aussi de ce que j'ai pensé sur ce qu'il a dit concernant les Juifs.

Comment une femme qui tranche la gorge de son mari peut poser un geste plus horrible qu'un homme qui tue sa femme à l'aide d'un taille-bordure ? Pourquoi ce serait pire venant d'une femme ? Parce que c'est normal qu'un homme pose de tels gestes ? C'est normal que des hommes comme Paul Bernardo violent et étranglent des jeunes femmes ? C'est normal qu'une femme se retrouve à moitié nue, morte, dans un stationnement près d'un hôpital, tuée par un homme qu'elle a rencontré la veille dans un bar ? Ce n'est pas aussi grave qu'un septuagénaire assassine sa femme alors qu'il est en boisson ? Et ce qu'a fait Agostino Ferreira à l'égard de ses victimes ? Je crois que ce qui n'est pas normal dans l'esprit du juge c'est qu'une femme ait quitté sa peau de victime pour devenir celle de bourreau envers celui qui l'est normalement : l'homme.

Je lis les journaux très souvent et la plupart du temps, ce sont des femmes qui se retrouvent victimes aux mains des hommes. Rarement un homme aux mains d'une femme. En moins d'un mois, en décembre, huit femmes ont été tuées. Je ne crois pas qu'une seule femme au monde ait été plus cruelle dans ses crimes qu'un homme. Je ne crois pas qu'une seule femme ait été plus cruelle que Marc Lépine qui a tué 14 femmes à la polytechnique simplement pour la raison qu'elles étaient des femmes dans un domaine stéréotypiquement réservé aux hommes. Je ne crois pas qu'une seule femme ait jamais été aussi cruelle

qu'Hitler ou Staline. On se rappelle beaucoup de ce qu'une femme a fait parce que c'est rare qu'une femme fait la manchette pour un crime qu'elle a commis. On a beaucoup parlé de Lorena Bobbitt qui a tranché le pénis de son mari. Mais parle-t-on de façon aussi spectaculaire de toutes les femmes qui subissent l'ablation du clitoris et la couture des lèvres chaque jour dans le monde ? On a traité O.J. Simpson en héros. A-t-on jamais pensé que le fait qu'il ait un passé de batteur de femmes ait quelque chose à voir avec le procès

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Announcements / Annonces



Notes from the Office of Undergraduate Studies

STUDENTS WHO EXPECT TO GRADUATE IN JUNE 1996: you should check the convocation list posted on the board behind the OUS. If your name does not appear on the list, please see Christine Gervais immediately. You should be aware that the graduation information you input on MARS is not sufficient.

Message From Building Guy

As Facilities Committee coordinator (a.k.a the building guy) I have received several helpful suggestions for sprucing up the common areas of the faculty. I would like to thank everybody who has taken the time to respond.

As many of you have hopefully noticed, some improvements have been made to the T.V. and pool

rooms. After the end of exams, a group of students took time out of their vacation to help paint the rooms and tile the floor. I hope that everybody likes the job they did.

On behalf of all the students in the faculty I would like to say merci to Marian, Dave, Dominique, Jody, Fred, Chris, Neil, Jason, Vincent, Ari and Pat. If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize. Thanks again, and keep on sending those suggestions to weinbe_d.

Important Notice

Early in the December exam period, an incident transpired involving two officers of the MUC police, McGill security guards, and a member of the public who was being charged with trespassing. In the course of events, one of the police officers made comments threatening the use of his firearm. In our opinion these comments were offensive and displayed a lack of professionalism and judgment that cannot be tolerated from police officers entrusted with our wellbeing. Furthermore, since the target of the

remarks was a Black Canadian, in light of the apparent problems that seem to plague the MUC police force's relations with minority communities, we think this incident requires notice and investigation.

If you were a witness to the incident, we would appreciate any help you could give us. Please e-mail us on the Faculty network, Sahlas_P or McLauR_R.

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Le Juge jugé

(Continued from page 1)

pour le meurtre de son ex-épouse ? Même les femmes du jury, dont une que j'ai entendu en conférence de presse, a dit que ça n'avait aucun rapport avec le procès. Pourquoi quelqu'un qui bat sa femme ne serait pas capable de la tuer ? Les médias traitent l'information en émphasant sur ce qui est le plus spectaculaire. Ce qui est courant est moins souligné. Notre pensée est donc modelée et influencée sur le même principe. C'est peut-être la raison pour laquelle le juge Bienvenue a pensé que ce qu'une femme a fait, parce que ça n'arrive pas souvent, c'est pire que ce que tout homme a fait, parce qu'on n'y pense pas. C'est plus courant, ce n'est pas sensationnel. Je vais vous dire, moi, ce qui est anormal, c'est le fait de tuer. Et c'est malheureux que ceci soit fait par une femme ou un homme. Mais c'est aussi très malheureux qu'un juge oublie si facilement que les femmes sont normalement les victimes...

Une autre chose à propos de la pensée du juge Bienvenue me tracasse. Un juge est un homme instruit. Un homme qui a du pouvoir. Un homme qui applique la loi. Un homme qui décide du sort d'un autre. Un homme qui crée la justice. Si des hommes comme lui ont une telle idée de la femme et de l'homme, soit celle que l'homme qui tue est un homme banal et qu'une femme qui tue est une femme vraiment vile, comment la société, les gens ordinaires, les gens qui manquent de savoir pour prendre du recul face aux préjugés, aux stéréotypes et aux médias, voient les femmes ? Sommes-nous encore en train de faire du surplace ? Est-ce que les mentalités changent vraiment ? Est-ce que l'on pense encore que la femme-victime est ce qui doit être et ce qui est normal ? Est-ce que la justice ne sera vraiment juste que lorsqu'il y aura autant de femmes que d'hommes dans le domaine juridique ?

Passons maintenant à ce que le juge a dit sur les Juifs. Je dois tout d'abord vous dire que je ne suis pas juive et que je crois préférable, dans la vie, de ne pas parler de ce qu'on ne connaît pas et d'essayer plutôt de comprendre ceux qui savent de quoi ils parlent. Ce qui signifie

que je me sens plutôt mal à l'aise de parler de ce que je ne suis pas et que je trouve vraiment ridicule qu'un juge ait pu parler de la sorte d'un peuple dont il ne fait pas partie (présumément, sinon, il n'aurait pas dit ce qu'il a dit). De plus, ces paroles étaient complètement hors sujet, sans aucun lien avec le procès. J'ai fait assez d'histoire pour savoir qu'avant de se rendre dans des chambres à gaz, les Juifs ont été dans des camps de travail, ils ont souffert de la faim, du froid, de mauvais traitements divers. Plusieurs ont été abattus à bout portant sans raison, parce qu'ils ne travaillaient pas assez vite, parce qu'ils étaient malades, parce qu'ils étaient Juifs tout simplement. Ils ont été privés de leurs biens, de leur dignité, de leur liberté, des gens qu'ils chérissaient, de leur famille. Et puis même s'ils avaient seulement subis le traitement de la chambre à gaz, je ne crois pas que l'on puisse dire qu'une femme qui a tué son mari l'ayant quittée est plus cruelle qu'un homme qui a exterminé 5 millions de Juifs sur la base d'un motif erroné de supériorité raciale. Et puis, la guerre, ce n'est pas tout. Il faut tout rebattir après. Les survivants se retrouvaient devant rien, seuls bien souvent parce que leur famille avait été tuée, sans bien, sans abri, sans travail, sans pays où aller. Je ne comprends pas qu'un homme instruit ait pu dire quelque chose d'aussi invraisemblable. Il a fait ses excuses, reste que ce qui est dit est dit. Et que si le juge savait que ce n'était pas vrai, il n'aurait jamais pensé ni dit une chose pareille. Ça ne lui aurait même pas traversé l'esprit.

L'indépendance judiciaire, la "security of tenure", est-ce que c'est vraiment si essentiel, si important qu'on le dit ? Quand des juges en arrivent à dire des choses telles, doivent-ils être protégés ? Peut-on encore les considérer comme impartiaux ? Dans Martin c. Gray, les juges Sopinka et Cory affirment que la valeur la plus importante du système judiciaire canadien est la confiance du public dans le système judiciaire, sinon le système s'effrite, les gens n'obéiront pas à la Justice. Selon moi, le juge Bienvenue n'est pas impartial dans sa vision des femmes et il a grandement déconsidéré l'administration de la Justice. Croire que ce qu'une femme a fait à un individu est pire que ce qu'un homme pourra jamais faire est être volontairement aveugle. C'est

démontrer que l'on pense qu'un jugement plus sévère doit être octroyé à une femme qu'à un homme pour le même crime le meurtre. Et je crois sincèrement que le meurtre, qu'il soit perpétré d'une façon ou d'une autre, est tout aussi horrible et répréhensible du fait qu'il enlève à quelqu'un son bien le plus précieux : la vie.

TOP 10

Steven Leitman, BCL II

Top Ten Quotes From Law Games:

10. "Beer please"
9. "Who's that guy that yakked all over himself?"
8. "Mmmm, Salvatore Pizza" (in anticipation of ordering).
7. "Ugh. Salvatore Pizza" (after choking it down).
6. "I'm getting on the next bus" (Yeah, sure you are).
5. "Really, a default?"
4. "Stupid *#@%\$'en hats, stupid *#@%\$'en hats..."
3. "I think Justice Wilson in Lavallee addressed some important and much needed changes in the law that..." (Just kidding, no one spoke of such non-trivial things)
2. "I seem to have this headache..."
1. (I've said this before, and thought it to myself while watching chaos and mayhem ensuing in the mosh pit) "What could be more fun than 2000 law students acting unreasonably?"

Pantouflicating

Don McGowan, LLB III

First, the Rant

The Application Process

Emmanuel said I could only write last week if I would write about the application process. In protest, I submitted no column. Yeah, like you noticed. I'd gotten so slack with getting my columns in that I can hardly believe you all remember me.

[Seeking approbation, Pantoufle finds none. Emmanuel reaches behind him for the whip. "Write, Pantoufle!" A crack, a cry, then the keyboard.]

In fact, I do remember applying to law school. Was there anyone out there who *wasn't* going to save the world? Or, rather, was there anyone out there who wrote in their little "Why I'm Applying to Law School" that they weren't? But now that we're here, and we're learned that "environmental law" means "lots of common law property", or that "human rights law" means "Kraft Dinner again?", we're all singing a different tune.

That tune sounds something like this: "Please, please, please, please give me a job! I'll photocopy or even polish your shoes! Just give me a job!"

If you read last week's issue, you'll know why Jody doesn't like articling. Hey, he's *got* a job! Me, I worked on the articling handbook at the same time as I found out that all the firms I interviewed with were hiring someone else. (One firm called and left a message on my machine saying, "I'm looking forward to hearing from you," and then told me that I had no job. Gee, thanks.)

Not that this means you shouldn't trust the articling handbook. I had nothing to do with writing the text. Trust me. That was all Lara (and, in French, Frédérique Amrouni, the

unsung hero of the law school). My favorite part of the articling handbook was working, however briefly, with Julie Carter. Come on - she's helped us through so much here (e.g. Torts, Real Estate), so it's kind of nice to have her working on the great quest to GET ME OUT OF HERE!

Which leads to...

The Extra Course

I *defy* anyone in this Faculty to tell me why BCL-stream students in the National Program have to take 2 common law semi-obligs and **3** civil law semi-obligs, but LLB-stream students in the National Program have to take 2 common law and **4** civil law semi-obligs.

Okay. I realize that those of us who came in here into common law didn't really realise what we were getting into. We didn't know yet that the best way to get hired in a city is to *go to law school there*, and that we were going to get *lots* of questions from Montréal firms about why we came to Québec, and when we plan to go back whence we came. But is that any reason to make us take Judicial Law and Evidence (particularly ironic, considering this course seems to be *civil law* procedure aimed at *Québec* courts)?

I think not.

The gauntlet is down, Deans Toope and Jutras. Is there any justice in the Faculty of Law?

Now, the Films

And I've seen a few over the past few weeks. This week's instalment will be simple:

Pantoufle Saw Lots of Bad Movies!

Dracula: Dead and Loving It

If someone suggests that you see this movie, drive a wooden stake through their heart.

I think Mel Brooks has finally lost it. I never saw *Robin Hood, Men in Tights*, and I'm told that was wise, but come on. When Harvey Korman is the funniest person in your movie...

There are exactly two good jokes. I'll now spoil them both for you.

1. When Lucy has become a vampire and invites Jonathan Harker to come away with her and live a life of unbridled sexual passion, he replies, "But Lucy, I'm British." She then grabs her breasts, heaves them together, and replies, "So are these!"
2. In the first scene, the Romanian peasant woman has a fake moustache.

Hey! This is funny stuff!

Joe Against the Volcano

I know it's old, but it was on at least 14 times on HBO in just a week.

Man, it's bad!

The first fateful pairing of Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan. Tom is a guy who thinks he has a "brain cloud", and gets a job being the guy who jumps into the volcano as a human sacrifice. Meg is a chick who just sails around on a boat, and is taking Tom to her dad's island so he can jump.

Of course they fall in love.

Of course the boat sinks, and they spend about 3 weeks (!) drifting around the ocean.

But who would have expected the cross-pollination of Jewish, Polynesian, and African stereotypes to be amalgamated into *one* native tribe!

What a wacky film! How kooky! That's it for this week

Martineau Walker

would be pleased to accept your application for an articling position with our firm.

Although our principal objective is to fill positions for the 1998 and 1999 articling periods, we will be considering all applications.

We would appreciate receiving your resume no later than February 15, 1996, to the attention of
Mr Eric M. Maldoff, at the address shown below.
Interviews will be held after March 1, 1996.

We also invite you to the Martineau Walker "Coffee House/Quatre à Sept" to be held in the Common Room on February 1 1996, from 4pm to 7pm.

Our firm profile is available at the Student Placement Office. Should you have any further questions concerning the firm or our hiring process, or should you require any other assistance, please contact:

Anne Catherine Drost
B.C.L./LL.B. 1993 (McGill)
(397-7531)

Martineau Walker
Advocates
800 Place Victoria
P.O. Box 242
Montreal, Quebec
H4Z 1E9

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procédera prochainement au recrutement d'étudiants pour les stages 1998 et 1999.

À tous ceux et celles d'entre vous intéressés à soumettre leur candidature:

Nous apprécierions recevoir vos *curriculum vitae* avant le 15 février 1996, à l'attention de Me Eric M. Maldoff
à l'adresse ci-dessous.
Les entrevues se dérouleront à partir du 1er mars 1996.

**Nous vous invitons également à un "Quatre à Sept" Martineau Walker qui aura lieu au Common Room
le 1 février prochain entre 16h00 à 19h00.**

Une brochure concernant notre cabinet et le stage est disponible au Bureau du placement étudiant. Si vous avez des questions
concernant notre cabinet, notre procédure d'embauche, ou tout autre sujet,
veuillez communiquer avec:

Me Anne Catherine Drost
B.C.L./LL.B. 1993 (McGill)
(397-7531)

Martineau Walker
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Meta-cognition, Meta-exam and Action

Rachel Urman, LL.B. II

In psychology, the field of study in which I was engaged (instead of political science) before immersing myself in the law, there exists a phenomenon known as meta-cognition. Meta-cognition is, in essence, thought about thought. Meta-cognitive skills play an important role in many types of cognitive activity. They are believed to develop gradually; research indicates that most children do not think about thought at all before the age of three or four. Before that time they appear to be more concerned with the immediate satisfaction of needs and desires. This is not surprising given the overwhelming and often cruel world that faces the young child.

I had not thought much about meta-cognition since the day I closed my psych texts and began reading cases, statutes and the Civil Code. When faced with my third set of exams here in the Faculty, however, I encountered a similar phenomenon: meta-exam, or thinking about exam-writing.

It is, perhaps, unfortunate that I had my first coherent meta-exam experience while I was writing an examination. I found myself scrawling notes about exam-writing in the margins of my blue and white booklet, rather than plodding through my answer to the broad theoretical-practical question that was to measure my mastery of the subject matter and analytical skills taught over the past three months. I hope my professor will not be too disappointed or too amused.

On the other hand, my experience could not have come at a more appropriate time. The issue of evaluation is a "policy" matter. The fact that I was able to reflect on the purpose of examinations (presumably the assessment of ability) and their suitability to this purpose in the midst of the exam-writing enterprise reflects a certain maturity. Possibly, I have learned to cope with the basic trials and tribulations of law school, and finally have the capacity to challenge the primary method of law school evaluation without decrying our entire education or the legal profession as a whole.

I am not the first individual at McGill to think systematically about these issues. Currently, the methods of evaluation used in the law school are being evaluated by members of the faculty as well as a student task force. Student opinions were

solicited this past fall, and although only a small number of second year students responded, we did so with a strong voice. I know that the frustration we expressed is felt by many of our classmates who have given up all hope of change, or have decided that one exam per course is okay because it means that they can relax until mid-November when gross panic assails them.

My aim is not to repeat the complaints and suggestions made in the open forum I attended along with a number of fellow second year B.C.L. and LL.B. students who could not quite believe they had survived first year. I trust that those suggestions have already been presented or will soon be presented to the administration. I wish only to add several observations I made during this past exam period- observations which reminded me that no matter how well one performs on a given 100% final, the performance itself is not always an accurate determinant of our mastery of legal principles and arguments or of our future success as a lawyer.

One of my central concerns about 100% finals is that they discourage any serious attempt to grapple with course material prior to the end of term. Professors and students often argue that it is possible to achieve integration and genuine understanding only after all the course material has been covered. I concede that I enjoy the exhilarating end-of-term revelation that our courses do, after all, make sense. Nevertheless, I am not convinced that it is necessary or useful to wait until the end of term for this understanding. I strongly believe we would gain a more thorough knowledge of positive law and policy matters if we were encouraged to make sense of it all over the long term. Yet, with 100% finals there is little incentive to integrate before the grand finale. Even when this integration (a.k.a. short-term memory overload) is successful we typically try to ignore the entire revelation as soon as a given exam is over, so as to avoid the nagging fear that we have made terrible omissions in our answers, and to increase our neural capacity for the next course. Consequently, each "well-integrated" course is all but forgotten within several days.

Success in exam-writing is in large part a function of learning to think about the law in the same way as one's professor. Regardless of what some might say, there is no single method of legal reasoning. In fact, it is the professor's job to teach

students his or her approach (and hopefully alternative approaches) to the issues. Learning to think about the law as one's professor does usually requires practice. Students can get some sense of the professor's approach from class, private meetings, and old exams. Nevertheless, these "sources" cannot compare to on-going oral and written evaluation. Even when they are available, 100% finals often end up being an evaluation of our test-taking ability, rather than our capacity to be good attorneys, advocates, policy makers, or researchers.

Some of us have been fortunate enough to participate in continual instructor evaluation, through mini-memoranda or class presentations. Many of us have had an opportunity to evaluate ourselves through work at the Legal Information Clinic. This evaluation has increased our confidence and our competence. I have no doubt that it is the best possible training for professional or academic careers in or beyond law.

The exam period is unique in that all classes and school activities cease, in order to allow us to study. This break from routine allows us to focus on one subject at a time and, if we are fortunate, to achieve the "integration" described above. While the "time off" is essential given the details to be assimilated and the weight of exams (in fact, we could use a bit more of it before the exams commence), it is a luxury that few of us will have in the work world. We cannot realistically expect free time to deal with pressures. For that reason, it might be beneficial for us to be faced with several smaller challenges (tests and/ or assignments), that relate to course themes throughout the term. Such challenges can instill in us a sense of accomplishment and help to counter the oft-expressed fears of the articling year, and subsequent years of practice in law or beyond law.

This article is the product of my first coherent meta-exam experience. It is not intended as a diatribe against examinations. I believe that exams serve an important purpose- the assessment of ability. This purpose, however, will best be realized if they are used in conjunction with the other methods of evaluation mentioned above. The changes I am suggesting may involve some extra work for students and professors. The benefit to be achieved is a richer academic experience and a stronger basis for future success. It is my firm belief that (in good utilitarian terms) this benefit far outweighs the costs. Let's act now!

Looking for Your Shadow

Let McGill's Shadow Program Help You Out

Still searching for that shadow? Could it be a little too sombre and obscure? Not in 1996! McGill's Shadow Program should put new light on any situation. Whether you are in first year law or in fourth year law, it is time to take advantage of an excellent opportunity to explore your options, ask questions, and possibly make some important decisions.

McGill's Shadow Program a été un instrument utile dans les années passées. Ce programme continuera à établir une bonne réputation dans les années qui viennent. Le programme permet des liens importants entre les étudiant(e)s en droit et la communauté juridique. C'est une occasion de voir "le droit en action"!

Le programme est votre billet comme étudiant(e)s en droit afin de découvrir vos options. Selon le domaine du droit -criminel, corporatif, environnemental, fiscal, le droit de la famille,etc.-, selon le lieu de travail -les firmes, le gouvernement, un contentieux, l'université,etc.-, selon le secteur -public ou privé- VOUS AVEZ LE CHOIX!

Numerous law firms, companies, commissions, and associations in Montreal have been contacted. The response is phenomenal. Doors are now open to allow students to tour offices, meet numeros practitioners, spend a day in court -the list is in "no manner and form" complete!

WHO, QUOI, WHERE,
QUAND, WHY, ET COMMENT?

Il y aura une session d'information pendant le mois de

janvier 1996. Venez poser des questions! Mais d'abord vous aurez accès à toute information importante au bureau du USO. Le cartable de contacts pour le Shadow Program s'y trouve.

Browse through the files (they are excellent comments from past participants) and feel free to consider and participate in as many placements as may best fit your schedule. Once you visualize the placement forms you will better understand the process. Nevertheless, please remember to read the files which interest you CAREFULLY. Certain dates are fixed. Certain numbers of students are limited. New files/placement opportunities are inserted daily.

The first person to sign up for a specific offer becomes the coordinator for all the students also interested in participating. The coordinator is responsible for arranging and confirming a meeting time and format that are convenient for all participants; a reasonable amount of time should therefore be left for making the arrangements so that other students have a chance to sign up. Other responsibilities include verifying the date and time the practitioner is available for a rendez-vous, notifying all students in the group, and confirming the appointment. Note that only the coordinator should contact the firm. Details about the arrangements made with the firm must be written in the file binder.

As coordinator, you are responsible for sending a thank you not and for writing up the group's comments and observations about the

experience. This is to be done on the opportunity sheet in the binder to provide feedback and reference for future program use. You should mention the feedback procedure to the professionals because they might not want certain information made public.

We are students representing McGill Law School within the community. The program is successful within this community and its reputation will continue to grow as long as we remember that attendance is important, appearance is important, appreciation is important. The professional community is volunteering its time and effort on our behalf as students of McGill Law School.

One final note. The program is not limited to the contacts as found in the file. In the past, other cities across Canada have expressed interest in the program. You may wish to participate during the spring break or during the summer months. Furthermore, if you have a certain placement in mind, the Shadow Program Committee will be happy to establish the contact for you.

Enfin, si vous avez des questions, suggestions, commentaires, ou problèmes par rapport au Shadow Program, n'hésitez pas à contacter Stéphanie Marin au 274-8863 ou les membres du comité Shadow Program (les noms se trouvent dans le cartable des contacts).

* Date and location regarding the Information Session will be posted in the Faculty.

JODY YITAALK

The following is dedicated to the women's ice hockey team who best exemplify the Law Games Spirit.

LAW MADNESS

The following account is the fourth and final installment in the Law Games series. As with the previous pieces on Law Games, it owes its inspiration to the Gonzo journalist Dr. Hunter S. Thompson.¹ The following is a fictionalized account of actual events. Any resemblance to actual persons either living or dead is purely coincidental.

"Ride Captain ride on your mystery ship.."

I consider January 17, 1996 as the spiritual culmination of my University career, for it was on this day that I first donned a "puke suit". Fourth year was the year that I'd finally get it right. I'd studied all the drug interaction warnings on my medication, and now it was time to get down to business. The trip commenced with a visit with the beer goddess. She hooked me up with the requisite case of the golden nectar. Then it was time for me to board the "magic bus" for Quebec City. The Captain was our host for the ride, and the trip literally flew by.

We arrived at our luxury accommodations, the Plaza Universel to the strains of "Wear the red suit!!!", which would become one of McGill's mantras for the weekend. When I checked in I found out my three roomates were, Elvis, Elton John and Prime Time. I was worn out from the long ride,

so I decided that napping was in order. I was awakened by Elton screaming at me to get up and party, so off we went to the first soirée of Law Games.

Carnal - Laval

The theme for the party was the Quebec Carnaval, and the evening was billed as the traditional "Boum - Boum". I thought I got a glimpse of Mr. "Poppin Fresh" himself up on stage, but like Mr. Burns that may have just been an ether induced trance. Saint - Cécile rocked the house which was packed with slimy, sweating, and swooning bodies. I had the pleasure of dancing with the beer goddess and with our fearless leader during the evening. The beer was cold and the atmosphere hot as the bodies flew around the mosh pit. I must admit that the red suit came in handy when people ended up spilling drinks on you, an inevitable occurrence at a party of this size.

The key to any sport is the warm up. If you don't warm up properly, chances are that you will pull something. As it turns out I hadn't quite warmed up properly, and so I pulled a disappearing act from the party. Besides I needed my rest for tomorrow's games.

Let the Games Begin

The rosy fingers of dawn crept across the Quebec sky as most law gamers were going to bed. This allowed McGill to win the opening rounds of competition via the most noble of Law Games traditions, the

forfeit.

I divided my time between the grid - iron and the women's ice hockey team. The women fought a pitched battle, but in the end were bested by U of T. None the less, they proved they were not to be trifled with. Janet "Boom - Boom" Michelin captained the team with Alex "Fearless Leader" Otis and Sara "Stimpy" Rose on defence. The offence ran smoothly under the guidance of Lindsay "Libidiny" Matthews and Tania "The Russian" Tretiak who centered it up for Jen "Which way do I hold this stick?" Ross and Sue "Sue Baby" Wells. Backing it all up was Jody "Big Mac" MacDonald. The highlight of the game came when Alex "Ace" Kau snuck one past the U of T net minder for McGill's only point of the tournament. The women were not discouraged by the game for they new that two new fresh faces from the farm team, Niru "Killer" Kumar and Jen "G is for Goal" Goode, were on their way for the next game.

On the grid - iron, despite winning the game via forfeit, the McGill 6 decided to scrimmage. The field conditions were horrible, the unseasonably warm temperatures led to large pockets of frozen slush. I screamed out for the groundskeepers head on a stick for making me wade through all that frozen crap. If god had intended us to play football outdoors, he wouldn't have made covered stadiums.

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Lair of the Lounge Lizards

We returned to our soundproof suite at the hotel for a much needed shower and un peu de mesquite. With my nouveau attitude and a clean pair of boxers the world had taken on a whole new look. I set out to find something to eat as the last thing that I had was a long distant memory. So I stumbled upon the lair of the lounge lizards...The lair was a place where Elvis would have felt right at home. The maitre - D slithered up to the door and asked to seat our party.

The place looked like it had remained unchanged since the ugly 70's which spawned the beast. My eye immediately caught the gaze of Bambi and Bullwinkle I could almost hear them say, "Best meat is in the rump governor". The lizard slowly zig zagged through the tables leading us ever onward past potted cacti and stained glass "Tiffany" lamps. We arrived at our table and I slunk into the real, simulated leather. I reveled in the

real faux wood paneling, with the mirror trim. The place oozed class. The waitress slithered on over and brought us a tray of raw meat to let us choose our steak. It was just then that I finally figured it out, everything is better bathed in a red leather glow.

Her name is Rio and she Dances on the Sand

We lined up for the busses outside the hotel. While we were waiting for the busses, the McGill contingent entertained the crowd with the biggest spontaneous outburst of spirit that I had ever seen during Law Games. The most popular cheer at that time, as well as for the rest of law games was, "Stupid fuckin' hats. Stupid fuckin' hats. Everybody knows that Montreal wears, stupid fuckin' hats." which was followed closely by, "Big pink flamingoes. Big pink flamingoes. Everybody knows that Sherbrooke blows big pink flamingoes."

When I arrived at the party I went

to catch a bird's eye view of the Carnival Freaks from the second floor DJ booth. I caught a glimpse of Elvis surfing the tide. Red puke suit with the collar turned up, plastic lei, shades and the attitude that said, "The King is here." The view brought back the memories of those classic beach movies, as well as the famous Hawaiian concert...

Stay tuned next week for the battle of the bands, grid - iron gladiators, and the Mesquite BBQ. Jody Berkes is a fourth year law student and a Law Games veteran. He would like everyone to remember in vino verité. His column appears in the Quid Novi.

1 ...Of course it wasn't true. I never said it was true. I said there was a rumor to that effect. I made up the rumor...I never said that John Chancellor ate acid either, except to those people in the waiting room at the convention in Miami. These Nixon youth followers were about ready to rush out there and give a demonstration. I was putting them on. (from "Lies - It was all lies - I couldn't help myself" in Songs of the Doomed, (1990 Pocket Books, NY))

otis Notice

After the great semester that we had, was it possible to have even more success with our sports activities? It appears that it was, since McGill had one of their best Law Games ever! Second place for the spirit award, winners of the battle of the bands and winner of the moot. What more can you ask for?

Since Jody Berkes is already telling you all about Law Games in his article I won't say much more, just read his column for all the juicy details! All I can say is that you guys were great and that next year the spirit award is ours!(yes now it really is possible!) Thanks to all of you who made that big success possible, Richard, Dominique, Véronique, Dave, Stéphanie, and all lawgamers! The red suits were a blast and they will be back next year same McTime, same Mcplace!

Alexandra Otis, Sports coordinator

*thanks again to my curling partners who made our 6 hours on the ice a lot more fun!

Purchases!

David White, LLB II

Welcome to 1996. Farewell 1995, the Year of the Hootie. Did you know that the most recent Billboard chart lists Hootie as having sold 11 MILLION copies of *Cracked Rear View*? More like 11 million cracked listeners. Sorry, but you see, Hootie's got me a bit riled lately, what with covering 54-40's "I Go Blind" for the *Friends Soundtrack*. Good Canadian boys have been all but defamed by a bunch of no-brainers for a show that consists of 22 minutes of whining and gen-X-uflecting. Bah! Not since the height of the Cold War have I been so frightened of the forces to the south.

But enough Don Cherry. *Rolling Stone* has just released its 1995 Readers and Critics Poll, so I thought I'd start the new year by closing out the old. I'll list some of the more interesting choices and my own humble alternatives where necessary.

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

RS Readers: LIVE

RS Critics: PJ HARVEY

Purchases: BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN: I like the Critics' choice here, but in "artist" I read intelligence, courage, integrity, and individuality. In releasing *The Ghost of Tom Joad*, the Boss demonstrates all such qualities in songs of loss, longing and jarring intensity.

BEST ALBUM

RS Readers: MELLON COLLIE, Smashing Pumpkins

RS Critics: TO BRING YOU MY LOVE, PJ Harvey

Purchases: FOO FIGHTERS, Foo Fighters: Again, Critics' choice is good, as is the Readers' (for a change), but from front to back, Dave Grohl displays tight musicianship, an ear for hooks and panache with the pen. Beats out *Tom Joad* by a whisker.

WORST ALBUM

RS Readers: CRACKED REAR VIEW, Hootie and the Blowfish

Purchases: Agreed.

BEST SINGLE

RS Readers: "You Oughta Know", Alanis Morissette

RS Critics: "Gangsta's Paradise", Coolio

Purchases: "The World I Know", Collective Soul: The ideal single is one which leads a listener to buy the album on that song's strength alone. With "The World I Know", Collective Soul has accomplished that twice Chez Tia.

WORST SINGLE

RS Readers: "Only Wanna Be With You", Hootie and the Blowfish

Purchases: Agreed, although "Free as a Bird" by 'the Beatles' gave it a run for its money.

BEST NEW BAND

RS Readers: FOO FIGHTERS

RS Critics: ELASTICA

Purchases: FOO FIGHTERS: If the debut is any indication, Dave Grohl could well be the guy to watch in the next century. As to how the Critics could choose Elastica, whose success is based purely on the impact of "Connection" and its out-and-out lick theft from Wire, is beyond me.

BEST TOUR

RS Readers: R.E.M.

RS Critics: PJ HARVEY

Purchases: I live in Montreal. What do I know from tours?

BEST TRIBUTE ALBUM

RS Readers: ENCOMIUM (tribute to LED ZEPPELIN)

Purchases: SATURDAY MORNING CARTOONS: Matthew Sweet does "Scooby-Doo" and the Ramones do "Spider-Man" - BAM! I'm eight years old all over again!

WORST TRIBUTE ALBUM

RS Readers: ENCOMIUM

Purchases: Whatever the XTC tribute album was - Sarah McLachlan doing "Dear God" - Yeesh!

BEST VIDEO

RS Readers: "Geek Stink Breath", Green

Day

RS Critics: "It's Oh So Quiet", Bjork

Purchases: "Wynonna's Big Brown Beaver", Primus: Les Claypool and the boys do a Duracell cowboy thing to the tune of a thrash square-dance - YEEE-HAAH!!

BEST RADIO STATION

Purchases: Yeah, right.

HYPE OF THE YEAR

RS Critics: MICHAEL JACKSON

Purchases: SILVERCHAIR: Australia, once ruled by Midnight Oil, has now been overrun by sixteen year-olds stealing from Seattle - a moment of silence for originality, please.

MOST WELCOME COMEBACK

RS Critics: PATTI SMITH

Purchases: ALICE IN CHAINS: Almost gone, but hopefully this new album will keep them around to stay. It should, if talent means anything.

LEAST WELCOME COMEBACK

RS Critics: THE BEATLES

Purchases: Agreed. What? Weren't the Red and Blue albums enough?

BEST BAND

RS Readers and Critics: R.E.M.

Purchases: SONIC YOUTH: Consistently challenging, always rewarding; *Washing Machine* is one of the year's best albums hands down. The great thing is that they continue to do this fully aware that stardom will never come their way, at least not in a Hootie-sense of the word. That's dedication, and that's what's missing all too much these days.

NOTABLE CANADIANS

BLUE RODEO, GLUELEG (*Heroic Doses*), OUR LADY PEACE (*Naveed*), SLOAN (**R.I.P.**),

TOM COCHRANE (*Ragged Ass Road*), SUPER FRIENDZ (*Mock Up, Scale Down*), ASHLEY

MACISAAC (*Hi, How Are You Today?*), THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

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(Where's the Bone?)

BIG SUGAR, SPIRIT OF THE WEST (*Two Headed*), THE HIP (*Day for Night*), HARDSHIP POST, THE TEA PARTY (*Edges of Twilight*), NEIL YOUNG (*Mirrorball*), 13 ENGINES, ODDS (*Good Weird Feeling*), SHANIA TWAIN'S MIDRIFT.

OTHER NOTABLES

BUFFALO TOM (*Sleepy Eyed*), BUSH, PRESIDENTS OF THE USA, RANCID, CHILI PEP-PERS, SPONGE (*Rotting Pinata*), SUGAR (*Besides [R.I.P.]*), CATHERINE WHEEL (*Happy Days*), MORPHINE (*Yes*), MIKE WATT (*Ball-Hog or Tugboat?*), PEARL JAM, PRIMUS, HUM, MATTHEW SWEET (*100% Fun*), DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, COLLECTIVE SOUL.

NEXT TIME: A review or two.

Law Student Ski-Weekend!

This is it ... our first organized ski trip since, since ... well since such a long time that I'm not even sure anymore. Anyway here are the details:

Date: Feb. 9-10, (Fri. night and Sat. day) - the weekend before St. Valentines

Where: Laurentians - Fri. night- Mt. St-Sauveur or Mt. Olympia. Sat. night- Mt. Gabriel

Accommodations: McGill Outing Club house (MOC house or "the House")

Cost: \$55 base price. Includes transportation, accommodations, Sat. lift, ice-skate rental, Sat. Breakfast and dinner. You'll need to take care of the optional stuff, like ski-rental, Fri. lift ticket and dinner, Sunday's activities, etc.

NOTE: To keep costs low and to obtain such a high degree of flexibility, we have to go with private cars. Effectively that means that the only thing limiting participation is the number of lifts available and the maximum capacity of the MOC house. To encourage people to drive, I'll be generously refunding drivers for their gas.

CONTACT: romano_d@lsa.lan.mcgill.ca for more info.

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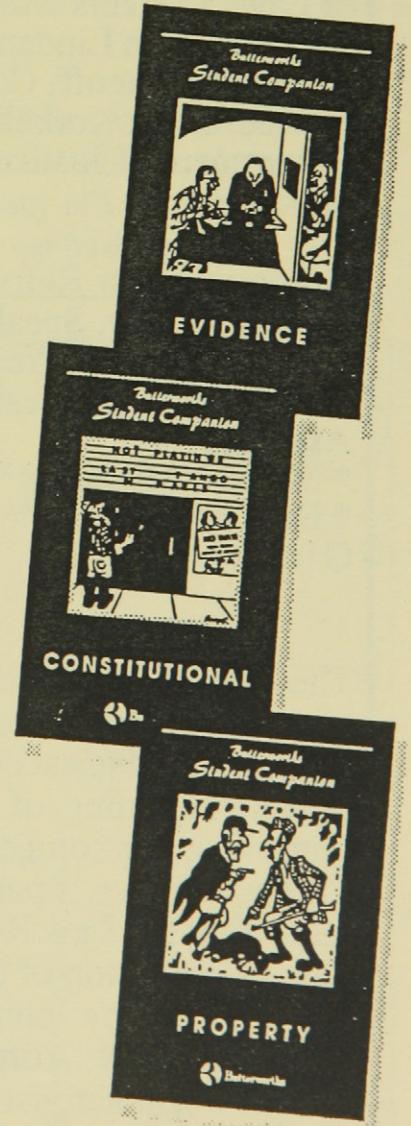
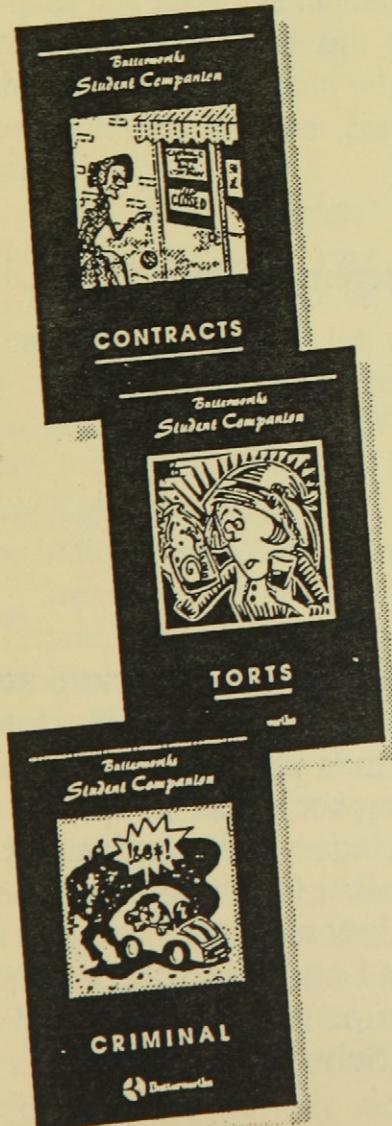
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The McGill Legal Activist Society in conjunction with InterAmicus
and the
McGill Faculty of Law
presents

THE FUTURE OF LAW REFORM IN CANADA

Wednesday, Jan 31, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Moot Court

Keynote Address by:

ALAN BOROVY, Counsel to the Civil Liberties Association

The address will be followed by three panels, each concluding with a question and answer session.

Legal Intervention in the Courts, Chaired by Justice Rosalie Abella, Ontario Court of Appeal. Speakers will include:

- * Mary Truemner, Counsel, The Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation and the Charter Committee on Poverty Issues, and
- * Professor Irwin Cotler, McGill Faculty of Law.

The Future of Judicial and Legislative Reform in Canada, Chaired by Professor Patrick Healy, McGill Faculty of Law. Speakers will include:

- * Justice Alan Linden, Federal Court of Appeal,
- * Donald Piragoff, Counsel, Federal Department of Justice, and
- * Deborah McKorkell-Hoy, Director, Law Reform Division, Federal Department of Justice.

Grassroots Law Reform - The Strength of a Common Voice, Chaired by Professor Jeremy Webber, McGill Faculty of Law. Speakers will include:

- * Wendy Cukier, President, The Coalition for Gun Control,
- * Joseph Oliver, President & CEO, Canadian Investment Dealers Association,
- * Michael Manning, Victim's Rights Advocate, and
- * Henry Aubin, Editorial and Urban Affairs Writer, The Montreal Gazette.

The McGill Legal Activist Society was initiated this year to give students opportunities to become more aware of and involved in the legal reform process in Canada. As Minister of Justice, Allan Rock, indicates in a letter supporting this first conference of the Legal Activist Society, "the task of law reform is part of the wider work of nation building, of advancing our collective and individual well-being -- of building social harmony, of improving our competitiveness, our standard of living, our quality of life, and our relations with each other! This conference is particularly timely in light of the government's recent proposal in Bill C-106 (an Act respecting the Law Reform Commission of Canada) to reestablish a Mechanism for law reforms through a new Law Commission of Canada. It is also important to recognize that the first Canadian Law Reform Commission was launched by John Turner at McGill in 1971. We sincerely hope you will make time to attend this important event. **Admission is free.** For more information, please contact Jo-Anne Schneeweiss, Chairperson, McGill Legal activist Society, at 281-1587.